

Message Text

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ORIGIN CU-03

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DRAFTED BY CU/ EA: AHARDING: YLP

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TO AMEMBASSY PARIS

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E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SCUL CH

SUBJECT: PRC VISIT OF CHICAGO YOUTH DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM
DELEGATION

1. YOUTH DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM (YDP), SPONSORED BY MODEL CITIES - CHICAGO COMMITTEE ON URBAN OPPORTUNITY, IS ORGANIZING GROUP TO VISIT PRC THIS SUMMER AND APPLIED TO PRC EMBASSY OTTAWA FOR VISAS. YDP HAS BEEN INFORMED BY LETTER DIRECTLY FROM CHINA INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL SERVICE, PEKING, THAT TWENTY MEMBER GROUP IS BEING GRANTED VISAS FOR VISIT JULY 30- AUGUST 14; YDP PLANNED TWENTY YOUTH PLUS FIVE ADULT SUPERVISORS. AT SUGGESTION OF PRC EMBASSY OTTAWA, YDP HAS WRITTEN TO CHINA INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL SERVICE IN PEKING REQUESTING CLARIFICATION AND ASKING FOR TOTAL OF 25 VISAS. NO REPLY RECEIVED TO DATE.

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FOR ORGANIZATIONAL AND FINANCIAL REASONS YDP URGENTLY NEEDS TO KNOW TOTAL NUMBER OF VISAS THEY WILL GET.

2. ALTHOUGH THIS EXCHANGE WAS PRIVATELY REQUESTED BY CHICAGO IN THE BEGINNING, THE IMPORTANCE OF CHICAGO AS A CITY, AND THE INTEREST IN URBAN AND YOUTH AFFAIRS, LENDS NATIONAL SIGNIFICANCE TO THE VISIT. FOR THIS REASON, ALTHOUGH YDP IS FUNDING FROM PRIVATE SOURCES OWN EXPENSES WHILE IN CHINA, DEPARTMENT (CU) IS PROVIDING \$20,000 GRANT TO AID WITH TRANSPORTATION EXPENSES AND WILL SEND DEPARTMENT ESCORT WITH GROUP.

3. AT MUTUALLY CONVENIENT TIME PLEASE RAISE QUESTION OF NUMBER OF VISAS WITH PRC EMBASSY AND ASK IF THEY CAN GET INFORMATION FROM CHINA TRAVEL SERVICE INTERNATIONAL. WE ARE HOPING CHINESE WILL AUTHORIZE 25 VISAS FOR GROUP AND ONE ADDITIONAL VISA FOR DEPARTMENT' S ESCORT SO THAT LATTER WILL NOT PREEMPT ONE VISA FROM MEMBER OF YDP GROUP.
ROGERS

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** LIMDIS

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